

GREEN LINES

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OIL FIND DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES

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Will the oil industry really contribute to the development of our country? And is our country prepared to handle growth responsible?

For many oil, gas and mineral-rich countries, development remains elusive: the rich get richer, the poor stay poor, economies stagnate, corruption flourishes and conflict deepens.

The extractive industries generate tremendous wealth for more than 50 countries



Future Reality in Ghana?

around the world, but many of these nations have been unable to translate the windfalls into long-term growth and improved well-being for citizens.

Over the past decade, an international movement has emerged to counter this "resource curse." Citizens from producing and consuming countries have come together to demand better governance and true accountability in the generation and use of natural resource wealth.

A sector traditionally veiled in secrecy and managed as the exclusive domain of political elites and large corporations is beginning to open its doors to greater public scrutiny.

DEMANDING TRANSPARENCY AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Civil society groups are finding their way into conversations that are fundamental to the future of every resource-rich country.

Demanding transparency and social responsibility from Government and oil companies has become a major focus in the advocacy of civil society organizations. For instance, the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) has been instrumental in increasing citizen participation in this dialogue. The EITI is an international multi-stakeholder initiative of governments, companies and civil society working to strengthen governance

and development in producing countries by improving transparency and accountability in the extractives sector.

Publish What You Pay (PWYP) is another initiative of Human Rights, Development and Environmental Organizations seeking to ensure transparency in the payment, receipt and management of revenues from the extractive industries.

Due to these initiatives also Government agencies and companies in Ghana are beginning to recognize that greater openness can serve their long-term interests.

read more on page 3, 8 & 9



EDITORIAL

Welcome to the second edition of Greenlines - Friends of the Nation's Newsletter on development and environmental concerns in the Western Region of Ghana.

This edition is supported by the Worldbank to which we are very grateful for laying another important focus of development efforts on the effects of the oil-find in the Western Region.

It has been our concern for many years to assist in protecting our resources and in safeguarding respective rights, both for the environment and the human beings depending so much on them.

Civil Society Development in this respect has become a major program activity of Friends of the Nation and its partner organisations.

We are happy to dedicate this edition to the numerous individuals being actively involved in civil society development and the creation of a healthy environment which can sustain our future.

For Humanity

Donkris Mavuta

Executive Director



Friends of the Nation (FoN) is a registered non-governmental development organization based in Takoradi in the Western Region of Ghana. FoN was established in 1993.

Introducing our partner organisations:

In November 2009 the Initiative

Integrated Coastal and Fisheries Governance (ICFG)

was launched in Ghana by the Coastal Resources Center, University of Rhode Island, United States of America.

The 4-years program is funded by USAID. Friends of the Nation, among other partners, have been acknowledged as the primary implementing NGO in the Western Region.

The program's goal is to contribute to Ghana's sustainable management of the coastal and marine ecosystems and provide goods and services for long term socio-economic benefits to communities while sustaining biodiversity.

Key Strategies are:

- Participatory Co-Management that engages fisherfolk fully in decision-making and builds upon cultural traditions (finding a balance with government)
- Ecosystem-based management that looks not only at fish, but protection of critical habitats
- Gender mainstreaming where both men and women benefit and participate

Read more on the ICFG on page 8



COASTAL RESOURCES CENTER
University of Rhode Island

For information contact:
mfenn@crc.uri.edu

Lessons from the Accra High Level Forum

"Aid is only one part of the development picture. Democracy, economic growth, social progress, and care for the environment are prime engines of development in all countries.

Addressing inequalities of income and opportunity within countries and between states is essential to global process."

"We recognize that greater transparency and accountability for the use of development resources—domestic as well as external—are powerful drivers of progress."

Source: Accra Agenda for Action, 3rd High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness, held from 2-4 September 2008 in Accra, Ghana

CRISIS ACTION SOLUTIONS ORG.

CASOLS

established in 2002, is a registered non-profit, non-governmental development-oriented Organization based in Takoradi in the Western Region of Ghana. The Organization is registered with the Registrar General's Department (No.662043)

VISION A Peaceful World without Poverty

MISSION To serve the poor and marginalized communities by way of education, transfer of appropriate technology and lending to reduce the worst aspects of poverty as well as ensuring human security.

AREAS OF OPERATION In line with its mission and vision, the Organization is concerned amongst others with factors contributing to poverty and value-addition to productive systems with emphasis on trade and Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) particularly for vulnerable women and youth.

Contact: casols_@hotmail.com



FIELDREPORT: WHO BENEFITS FROM OIL?

COMMUNITY CONCERNS IN THE WESTERN REGION

Public discourses on the oil find have so far avoided the potential social and environmental impacts of the emerging oil industry on communities bordering the oil find, and focused largely on revenue maximisation and benefit sharing. This has generated diverse public expectation, assumption and perception regarding the oil find especially in the Western Region of Ghana. It is for this reason, that PWYP-Ghana supported and funded an initiative led by FoN to address the neglecting of coastal communities and fisher folks in the public debate. Those whose livelihoods may be affected most by the commencement of the oil production raised serious concerns and anticipated the following impacts:

* Community Concerns *

- Is there ever going to be adequate consultation with fisherfolks on his oil find? We have never been consulted in any national issue, even not the ones that directly involve us.
- An expected increase and density of population in oil-communities will result in higher crime rates. How can we be protected in our communities?
- Who is going to monitor the companies at sea? If even mining companies on land are not being monitored, how much more is necessary for the sea?
- How would Government take adequate care of all stakeholders, including fisherfolks, whose livelihoods are directly affected?

*) Community concerns were gathered from six coastal Districts in the Western Region, specifically Jomoro, Ellembele, Nzema East, Ahanta West, Sekondi-Takoradi and Shama.

- How can we ensure that mitigation measures provided by the companies are adequate and commensurate to livelihoods lost?



Community Durbar on Oil organized by FoN In Cape-Three-Points

- We have no good hospitals in our communities how can we manage when more people come to our communities because of this oil?
- What security measures are being put in place against dangerous activities by saboteurs (like oil bunkering)?

- How can communities and CSOs persist on inclusion of “non-flaring of gas” in Ghana?

- How do we ordinary people at the community level ensure transparency?

* Conclusions *

Expectations of the Westerners on Ghana's oil-find are high and reveal a feeling of “the oil being the panacea to all the economic woes of the country”.

The durbars let express a communal desire to participate actively in relevant dialogue towards formulation of policies for oil-production and related economic activities.

After all, the initiative created the platform for awareness on issues concerning health and livelihoods, of potential social, environment and economic impacts.

Following the high expectations, also on transparency issues of oil revenue tracking, there is need for a scale-up of civil society involvement to address knowledge gaps and encourage an integrated collaborative approach where all stakeholders participate as beneficiaries in the oil development process.

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE FISHERIES COMMISSION

After a long absence the Fisheries Commission has finally been established. The question is, would it fulfill the expectations of stakeholders? Stakeholders are expecting that—guided by the fisheries Act 625—the Commission would work to address the challenges of the fisheries sector.

THE FISHERIES “ACT 625” MANDATES THE COMMISSION TO:

2.(2)(1) Correlate fisheries with other water uses and environmental protection particularly with respect to the fish resources and food chain in the rivers, lagoons, lakes and the continental shelf along the coast of the country;

2.(2)(j) Standardize fish quality, weight and the basis for fish pricing in Consultation with any other agency that has responsibility for fish quality standards;

2.(2)(k) **Make** recommendations to the Minister on grant for licenses for fishing.

2.(2)(l) In consultation with the Minister, control and co-ordinate and control the importation of fresh and frozen fish.

2.(2)(m) In collaboration with the competent authority, establish requirement for manning fishing vessels and boats, safety for crew and vessels and for fishing gears in use to avoid damage by other vessels,

2.(2)(n) Hear and determine complaints from persons aggrieved in respect of matters arising from or related to fishing activities and the fishing industry generally.

2.(2)(o) in collaboration with District Assemblies with fishing communities ensure the enforcement of the fishery laws including bye-laws made by the relevant District Assemblies.

CHIEF FISHERMEN INTERVIEWED

Nana Kofi Dzawoaba, Chief Fisherman in Apewosika, Axim

has life-long experience in fisheries. Questioned about changes in modern times and the way of fishing he answers:

Nana: We have many types of fishing nets, one by name bottom set net, that net, when we go to sea, we cast the net, we leave the net in the sea and come home, after a weeks time we go and collect the net. But the pair-trawlers often destroy our nets. We can't use that type of nets any more because of these trawlers.

FoN: Are these local or foreign trawlers?

Nana: Both, local and foreign ones.

Nana's secretary, Mr. John Dickson adds: We do see them. When you are near them, they spray hot water, or they are throwing objects, either stone or any form of missile that will enjure you. So you can't go near them.

FoN: Are they Europeans ?

John Dickson: Yes.

FoN: Are you sure?

John Dickson: No. They are Ghanaian trawlers, licensed by the Ghanaian authority.

Interview Information provided by Bettina Rühl, Horizonte Journalist, October 2008



Pair Trawlers

Illegal & Dangerous Fishing Practices

Fishing with

- Dynamite
- Chemicals
- Light

Pair-Trawling

Bottom Trawl Fishing

LAW AND LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR FISHERIES

PROHIBITED FISHING METHODS

SECTION 88

Section 88. (I) A person shall not
88. (I) (a) Permit to be used, use or attempt to use any explosive, poison or other noxious substance for the purpose of killing, stunning, disabling or catching fish, or in anyway rendering fish more easily caught; or

88. (I) (b) carry on board or have in his Or her possession or control without Lawful authority at any place within a two kilometer radius from any shore or river, any explosive, poison or other noxious substance in circumstance indicating an intention of using such substance for any of the purposes referred to in paragraph (1)(a).

88. (2) Any explosive, poison or other noxious substance found on board a fishing vessel shall be presumed, unless

the contrary is proved, to be intended for the purposes referred to in subsection (I) (a)

88. (3) A person who lands, sells, receives or possesses fish taken by any means which contravenes subsection (I ') {a} and who knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the fish has been so taken, commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of not less than

88. (3) (a) \$250,000 and not more than \$2 million in respect of a local industrial or semi-industrial fishing

vessel or a foreign fishing vessel; or

88. (3) (b) 25 penalty units and not more than 500 penalty units in any other case and in addition, the catch, fishing gear or other apparatus or any combination of them used in the commission of the offence shall be forfeited to the State.

88. (4) In any proceedings for an offence under this section, a certificate as to the cause and manner of death or injury of any fish, signed by m authorized person or observer shall, until the contrary is proved, be sufficient evidence as to the matters stated in the certificate,

88. (5) In proceedings for an offence under this section, the defendant shall be given not less than fourteen days' notice in writing of the prosecution's intention to produce a certificate under subsection (4). (...)

see next page for Section 93

FISHERIES ACT 625 of 2002

KNOW THE FACTS

FISHING WITH CHEMICALS

Carbon is a pyrophoric substance used by the chemical and petroleum industry. It can spontaneously ignite upon exposure

CARBIDE

to air.

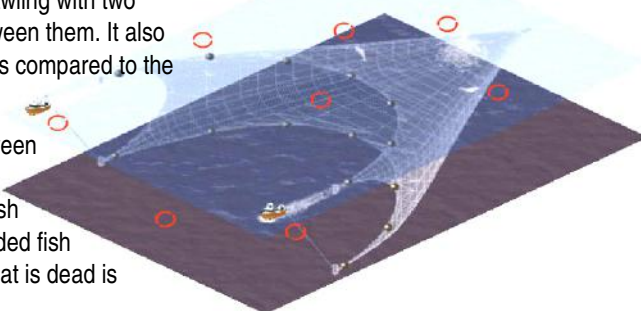
When Calcium carbide makes contact with water there is also a chemical reaction in which acetylene is formed.

Inhaled by humans this poison may cause serious health problems such as chest pain, cough, sore throat, chills, nausea and long lasting difficulties for lungs and heart.

PAIR-TRAWLING

This picture shows pair trawling with two boats and a huge net between them. It also shows the huge net size as compared to the boat size.

All the fish that come between the two boats are scooped by the net but not all the fish is needed so the few needed fish is selected and the rest that is dead is thrown back into the sea.



Source: www.greenpeace.org

Fisherman Mike Abaka-Edu

from Axim is a mechanic and a canoe owner and explains to FoN:

As a result of the activities of pair-trawlers, both the inshore-vessels and the artisanal fishermen are now using chemicals to fish.

Because previously, you fish on a conventional way – you have enough catch. but of late, because of the activities of the pair trawlers, if you fish on a normal basis, you wouldn't have fish. Unless you use a chemical. In the course of using a chemical, the fishes in the sea are depleting.

FoN: *Why chemicals? Because pair-trawlers destroy your nets?*

Mr. Abaka-Edu: Yes, they are destroying our nets. And in addition to that, they are destroying the fishes in the sea. Because when the fishes on the sea top migrate downwards, these pair –trawlers will use their nets to disturb them. So before the fish will come downwards for the artisanal fishermen, the fish has become aggres-

sive. So without using a chemical to trap them, you wouldn't get the fish. Unlike previously, when you go to sea on a normal basis, you would have enough catch.

FoN: *So these Chinese vessels and the other expatriate fishing vessels in fact are disturbing the artisanal fishermen? But why do you use chemicals knowing that you destroy the last resources?*

Mr. Abaka-Edu: Okay, because without using chemicals to fish, you wouldn't have a catch. You use about 15 gallons of petrol to go to the sea, and in the course of your fishing expedition, you wouldn't have a catch. So unless you adopt dubious means before you attract the fish, unlike before you can easily trap them and bring the fish ashore.

FoN: *Which chemicals?*

Mr. Abaka-Edu: We have had of carbide and previously, the fishermen were using dynamite. But the chief fisherman laid a ban on it, and so, most of the inshore fishermen adopted the use of carbide. Because if they cast the net, they use the carbide to seal the face of the net, so the fish cannot get out of the net.

FoN: *Is the chemical not also poisonous for human being?*

Mr. Abaka-Edu: It is, but this is the only option. Other than that, you will run at a loss. Because you use about one drum of petrol, getting about 2 million Cedis, that is 200 Ghana Cedis now, by going to sea about three or four occasions, and you wouldn't have a catch. And so, the fishermen are being compelled to use chemicals to catch fish.

*Information provided by
Bettina Rühl, Horizonte Journalist,
October 2008*

FISHERIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

SECTION 93

93. (1) A person or government department or other agency planning to conduct any activity other than fishing, which is likely to have a substantial impact on the fisheries resource or other aquatic resources of Ghana, shall inform the Commission of planned activity with the view to the conservation and protection of the resources.

93. (2) The Commission may make or require reports and recommendations by those conducting the planned activity

regarding the likely impact of the activity on the fishery resources or other aquatic resources of Ghana and possible means of preventing or minimizing adverse impacts, which shall be taken into account by the person, government department or other agency in the planning of the activity and in the development of means of preventing or minimizing any adverse impacts,

93. (3) The requirement under this section shall be in addition to any other requirement of the Environmental Protection Agency.

OPERATION STOCK CONTROL

The initiative of the Ghana Navy to control and finally ban pair-trawling has only been partially successful. Fishermen whistle blow that pair-trawlers are still to be watched in Ghana waters!

FRIENDS OF THE NATION: PROGRAMS & PROJECTS

THE BUSINESS SECTOR ADVOCACY CHALLENGE

BUSAC is a Fund that purpose is to strengthen the capacity of the private sector to advocate for improved policies. BUSAC envisages advocacy being used to remove bottlenecks that stop the private sector from developing, improve private sector participation in developing and implementing policies, as well as to allow a better understanding of the role of the private sector by the general public and a better image.

The main advocacy target is mostly the public administrations at different levels, including district and

community levels, but also the other bodies within the private sector (banks, etc.), and the general public.

BUSAC is funded by DANIDA and helps the private sector through its associations of businesses, the labour market and within the media landscape (by exception, media are entitled to apply as organisations, not only through their associations, because of their role and capacity to broaden the information.) Individuals or individual businesses that have good ideas about removing blockages and

bureaucratic conditions that affect business operations in the country

will have to apply through their association.

The fund is mostly to promote user demand driven mechanisms, even though it has some money also for supplydriven actions, to reach out and encourage small asso-

ciations and weak groups to apply.

Special attention is given to crosscutting issues such as environment, gender, child labour and HIV/AIDS.

Source: The RAVI Directory of Funds in Ghana, March 2005



Talking BUSAC:
FoN Facilitator in discussion with Ray Agbo,
Chairman of the Wood Carver's Association

STRATEGY & TOOLS:

ADVOCACY

Friends of the Nation has successfully acted as a service provider for associations of the Western Region applying for an advocacy action to BUSAC. Within the two year pilot phase (2006-2008), FoN has supported 15 associations from different economic sectors and qualified in the BUSAC training-of-trainers program for small scale business sector advisory.

ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

CREATING PLATFORMS FOR THE SMALL-SCALE BUSINESS SECTOR

The Business Advocacy Forum is a FoN-sponsored platform offered to private Business Associations in the Western Region who are interested in adopting ethical trade practices and use advocacy as a tool to influence policy and regulations governing their businesses with a view of expanding their businesses and discharging their tax obligations.

A Business-Partner Advocacy Forum was held in Takoradi on 15 January 2009.

Business Associations present at this forum were urged to regularise their

institutions and reposition themselves to take advantage of numer-

ous opportunities to facilitate the growth of their businesses.



Presentation of Ghana Haulage Association, W/R Branch

Initial members of this forum are fifteen (15) Private Sector Business Associations with a total membership of about 10,000 small and medium scale entrepreneurs operating within the Western Region. Most of these groups have received various grants from the Business Sector Advocacy Challenge Fund (BUSAC Fund).

CEMAGs: Strengthening Community Responsibilities in Monitoring and Environmental Management

Advocacy work with coastal communities, affected by the oil find culminated into the establishment of a number of Community Environmental Monitoring and Advocacy Groups (CEMAGs). Based on the fact that local people know their reality best and are to be at the forefront of any advocacy campaign reflecting their concerns, the issues raised cannot be



FoN 3-DAY CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP FOR CEMAGs

easily dismissed by the Government and the oil companies.

For example, knowing what Government receives and what companies pay is crucial to holding decision-makers accountable for the use of petroleum revenues.

For strengthening and capacity building on environmental monitoring, revenue tracking skills a training-workshop was held with CEMAGs and other key stakeholders in the Western Region from 25-27 March 2010 in Takoradi.

**Community
Environmental
Monitoring
Advocacy
Groups
(CEMAGs)**

Community Development

Empowering communities to have a voice in formulation and implementation of policies is a key issue in ensuring sustainable resources management. Moreover, community participation in decision making, building up capacities and skills to communicate and advocate, format groups, platforms and networks for sharing information and experiences will contribute to sustain biodiversity and achieve in the long run a healthy environment, better livelihood conditions and good governance practices for all.

Participation & Co-Management

CO-MANAGEMENT: TAKING POSITION

Collaborative management or co-management is based on the idea that conservation of natural resources is best achieved by enabling local communities to derive benefits from the sustainable use of these resources. Co-management initiatives are sometimes controversial because community development objectives are not always consistent with conservation objectives, and communities may or may not possess sufficient local ecological knowledge to sustainably manage their natural resources without significant support.

Support, not only in financial terms, must be given by Government agencies, the Department of Fisheries, the Fisheries Commission, the District Assembly etc.; By-laws for resources protection must come into effect and a local governance that watches over compliance, short and long-term effects on the resource base and sustainable management practices.

True sustainability however, needs the support of the community and a common goal shared by traditional authorities, the chiefs, the chief fishermen and other leading male and female community members.

To encourage effective co-management in coastal communities, there is the need to re-activate the Community-based Fisheries Management Committees (CBFMCs) form by the Fisheries sub-sector capacity building project with support from the World Bank some time ago.

In reactivating the CBFMCs, it is important to reconstitute its membership to involve all fisheries stakeholders at the community level. For instance, if there exist industrial, inshore, canoe, line and hook, services boys, fish mongers/processors, etc. in a particular landing beach the CBFMC should be expanded to include them all: including the assembly representative and fisheries officers, etc. this would to ensure that

decisions taken by the CBFMCs would have the inputs of all the local stakeholders. Particular attention should be given to the women mongers/processors to ensure that they are fairly represented.

Capacities building on Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR), Book Keeping, Monitoring Control and Surveillance (MCS), Sanitation, etc. is also relevant to enable the CBFMCs to function effectively.

Beyond these is it to be noted that CBFMCs at the community level alone cannot effectively support the co-management effort required without supportive platforms at the district, regional and national levels. It is therefore imperative to have District Fisheries Management Committees (DFMCs), Regional Fisheries Management Committees (RFMCs) and National Fisheries Management Committees (NFMCs) at various levels to engage on behalf of fishermen.

GLOBAL ISSUES:

The Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI)

The EITI aims to strengthen governance by improving transparency and accountability in the extractives sector. It is a **voluntary initiative** that is implemented by countries whose governments sign-up to do so. The EITI Board and the EITI International Secretariat are the guardians of the initiative's methodology that **supports improved governance** in resource-rich countries through the verification and full publication of company payments and government revenues from oil, gas and mining. Implementation itself, however, is the responsibility of individual countries.

Effective EITI participation and monitoring of a country's extractive industries is a daunting challenge for civil society. These industries are technically, legally and financially complex. Commodity mar-

EITI

provides an internationally recognized framework for companies to publish what they pay and for governments to disclose what they receive.

kets, accounting practices, and institutions themselves change frequently. Industry structures, rules and practices vary from country to country. Local and international politics play a significant role. And even with EITI participation, much information about the sector remains beyond public scrutiny.

It is, in short, no small task for activists to get up to speed on the business and politics of oil, gas and mining.

Add to these hurdles the fact that many EITI activists live in countries which have been wracked by war, and which have little or no precedence for civic engagement in

public policy processes. Multi-stakeholder governance is strenuous under the best of circum-

stances, and in the case of the extractive industries, civil society groups start at a disadvantage, with less information, technical education and influence than their public and private sector counterparts.

Despite these enormous challenges, activists around the world have rushed forward since the EITI's launch just six years ago. The hunger for more extractive industry information, more understanding and more participation is palpable.

In contrast to Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs) or Environmental Impact Assessments, the EITI process requires that civil society not only be consulted, but be given a seat at the table and a vote in critical decisions.

Our future is not a gift

**PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT
DEMOCRATISING DEVELOPMENT**

ERA—Environmental Rights Action

© Friends of the Earth, Nigeria

Source: Workshop on GEITI/EITI held in Ghana, February 2009

REGIONAL ISSUES:

THE INTEGRATED COASTAL & FISHERIES GOVERNANCE INITIATIVE

The Program that is jointly implemented by CRC, FoN and other partners seeks to address the following issues:

- Over exploitation of fisheries resources and decline of fish stocks
- Conflicts between artisanal and industrial/semi industrial fleet and oil/gas companies
- Weak capacity for governance of coastal and fisheries resources
- High population, high poverty and poorly planned coastal communities
- Increased human activities and pressures and their impact on natural resources
- Threats to biodiversity assets including wetlands, lagoons, mangroves, turtle nesting areas
- Adaptation to the impacts of climate change

Expected Outcomes are:

⇒ Strengthened human and institutional capacity

⇒ Informed constituencies (communities, civil society, private sector, government)

⇒ Improved management and sustainability of fisheries resources

⇒ Changed resource use practices that foster sustainability

⇒ Increased socio-economic well-being of coastal communities through diversification of livelihoods & improvements in the fishery value chain



⇒ Improved environmental conditions in selected sites and areas.

THE WORLD BANK CIVIL SOCIETY FUND

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

THE CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIPS (CDP)

The Civil Society Fund is coordinated by the World Bank Ghana Office in partnership with the Center for Development Partnerships (CDP). The fund formerly known as the 'small grants program' complements and facilitates the social development agenda of the World Bank through its focus on civic engagement. Civic engagement can:

Promote public consensus and local ownership for reforms, national poverty reduction and **development** strategies by building networks, creating a platform for public-private cooperation, and sometimes even diffusing tensions;

Give voice to the concerns of primary and secondary stakeholders, particularly poor and marginalized populations, and help ensure that their views are factored into policy and program decisions;

Strengthen and leverage impact of development programs by providing knowledge and information on local issues, identifying potential risks, targeting assistance, and expanding reach, particularly at the community level;

Bring innovative ideas and solutions to development challenges at both the local and global levels.

CDP is committed to ensuring that local resources and partnerships between private, public and non-profit sectors are at the heart of development practice in West Africa. FoN is very proud to be a member of this partnership. A FoN/CDP-guided project shall commence this year.



PUBLISH WHAT YOU PAY

AN INITIATIVE FOR MORE TRANSPARANCY

Publish What You Pay (PWYP)

is a coalition of Human Rights, Development and Environmental Organizations seeking to ensure transparency in the payment, receipt and management of revenues from the extractive industries. PWYP US was launched as a coalition in the fall of 2004 by groups such as Catholic Relief Services, Friends of the Earth, Oxfam America, and the Open Society Institute.

MEMBERSHIP of PWYP-GHANA

PWYP also has national affiliated coalitions in 22 of the 23 EITI candidate countries (see left page on EITI). Among the Ghanaian members is ISO-DEC, WACAM and Friends of the Nation (FoN). PWYP-Ghana became active in 2005.

PWYP's work on the EITI

Members of these national coalitions often serve among the civil society representatives as part of the national multi-stakeholder groups responsible for EITI implementation. At the same time, they also serve as the local watchdogs of the EITI.

Local civil society's growing interest in domestic monitoring and activism has led to an enormous demand for training and capacity-building around EITI processes, contracting and taxation regimes, auditing and accounting processes, International Finance Institution (IFI) lending and disclosure policies, as well as a wide range of other issues.

DEMANDS FOR ACCOUNTABILITY FROM GOVERNMENTS & COMPANIES

PUBLISH WHAT YOU PAY: This is the call on companies to make public all their payments to governments, so as to inform the populace of what their government is earning off the exploitation of the resources.

PUBLISH WHAT YOU EARN: This is the call on governments to publish all their receipts of payments from companies. This is the necessary second half of the equation so as to compare the "publish what you pay"

PUBLISH HOW YOU SPEND IT: This is the call on governments to make public their budgets and in particular the expenditures using the money earned through extractive projects. Throughout this process

it is PWYP's aim that the citizenry can weigh in on how these funds are spent, and hopefully promote development by ensuring responsible dispensation of the profits earned from the natural resources.

PUBLISH WHAT YOU DIDN'T PAY: This is the call to publish the contracts and the negotiation process between companies and governments. Contracts are an instrument of public policy, as natural resources and the **public policy making process belongs to the people**. To that end, citizens are entitled to participate in the negotiation process and to see what kind of deal their government negotiated.

GOAL

PWYP's objectives are for companies and for governments a necessary first step towards a more accountable system for the management of natural resource revenues. If companies disclose what they pay, and governments disclose their receipts of such revenues, then members of civil society in resource-rich countries will be able to **compare the two and thus hold their governments accountable for the management of this valuable source of income**.

ENVIRONMENTAL & LIVELIHOOD CONCERNS FOR GHANA'S OFFSHORE OIL PRODUCTION

by Kyei Kwadwo Yamoah, FoN NR Program Coordinator

With the intended use of the Floating Production Storage and Offloading vessel (FPSO) for Ghana's offshore oil production in the jubilee field, critical environmental and livelihood issues are being raised by FoN and others concerned about:

- Impacts of Increased sea traffic by shuttle vessels on fisheries livelihoods
- Effects of security zones around the FPSO on fishing activities
- Impacts of ballast water on marine and human life
- Effects of the operational 'gas flaring' by the FPSO on environment and marine ecosystem
- Potential of oil spillages and its effects on biodiversity, economic and social impacts

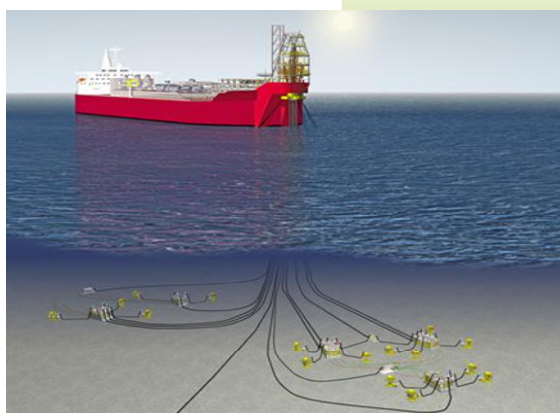
A Floating Production, Storage and Offloading (FPSO) vessel is a type of floating tank system used by the offshore oil and gas industry. FPSO vessels receive the crude oil from deepwater wells, process the oil and store it in their hull tanks until the crude oil can be pumped into shuttle tankers or oceangoing barges for transport to shore. FPSO vessels eliminate the need to lay expensive long-distance pipelines from the oil well to an onshore terminal. However, the use of the FPSO comes with potential environmental and livelihood threats:

According to respective reports, the FPSO "Kwame Nkrumah" would have the capacity to store approx.. 1.6 million barrels of oil. This quantity would be offloaded to shuttle- tankers every 10 days to refineries worldwide.

The shuttle tankers including the supply vessels to the FPSO would significantly increase sea traffic with its resultant noise pollution, potential marine accidents, and other dangers.

This would negatively impact on the fishing activities since both activities take place within the Economic Exclusive Zone (EEZ). A draft EIS scoping report assumes a safety exclusive zone of about 1,000m radius would be created around the FPSO and the zone would be patrolled to prevent any

unauthorized uses from fishermen. As a result, fishing activities would be severely obstructed, and access to traditional fishing areas denied. It should be noted that apart from the jubilee field, other companies operating in the Odum field, Ebony field and



other fields in the shallow water Tano block, have also explored oil. If each of these companies decide to use the FPSO technology and demarcate safety exclusive zone of about

FPSO—Floating Production Storage and Offloading- is a floating production system that receives fluids such as crude oil, water and a host of other things from a subsea reservoir.

1,000m radius each, the cumulative effects of the safety zones together would have the potential to put fishermen out of work.

Another grave concern is a potential impact of ballast water on marine and human life. Oil shuttle vessels that would come to Ghana to load oil from the FPSO will possibly dispose their ballast water into the sea.

Ballast water is sea water carried by these ships or vessels to ensure stability, trim and structural integrity when they are empty of cargo. As soon as these vessels load cargo, the ballast water is being discharged. In case of Ghana's oil production, shuttle vessels from various origin would load the oil from the FPSO and at the same time would discharge their ballast water (sea water) into Ghana waters.

However, this 'foreign' ballast water might be polluted or for instance carry 'biological invader species' that have the potential to collapse the marine ecosystem, change feeding

BALLAST WATER AND THE EXPECTED ARRIVAL OF THE FPSO "KWAME NKRUMAH"

patterns of fish, contribute to fish mortality, introduce certain diseases to animals and humans.

There are thousands of marine species that may be carried in ships' ballast water, including

bacteria and other microbes, small invertebrates and eggs, cysts, seeds and larvae.

Naturally, there are barriers, such as temperature and land masses, to prevent 'bio-invader species' from dispersing into certain areas. However, there are historical examples of negative impact:

Ballast water is believed to have caused the South American cholera epidemic in 1991. The epidemic was most probably a result of a bacterium discovered in oysters and fish in Mobile Bay, Alabama. A third of the ships arriving from South America in Alabama were noted to have carried this bacterium in their ballast.

Invader species by ballast water have wiped out Shellfish in Tasmania and contributed to the recent red tide outbreak in New Zealand. So severe that people breathing the sea air became ill. In several countries,

'red-tide' algae (toxic dinoflagellates) have been absorbed by filter-feeding shellfish, such as oysters. When eaten by humans, the contaminated shellfish caused paralysis and even death. The list goes on...

Unfortunately, no single ballast water management technique has so far been able to remove all types of organisms from ballast tanks. Little research has been conducted, too.

At present, Ghana has no ballast water management policy, so the question is: How can we manage the ballast water situation in Ghana? Is our EPA or Ghana Maritime Authority equipped enough or should we just leave it at the discretion of the oil companies?

How can our fishermen's and life in general be protected?

GAZETTE AT LAST

The Fishing Communities in Keta District can afford to smile at last. The reason? Their communities' bye-laws governing the practice "as of fishing as a livelihood" has been a "free for all" since regulations enacted by the people have not been passed into law, therefore rendering unenforceable by the fisherfolk and the law-enforcement agencies.

It all started some time ago but with the advent of FoN implementing an advocacy project in 16 coastal fishing communities in collaboration with the "Rights and Voice Initiative" (RAVI). Momentum was gathered and the most critical priority has been achieved: gazetting of the bye-laws.

According to Mr. Clement Lotsor, Deputy Technical officer of the District Ministry of Fisheries, the chief fishermen

and the two assemblymen and of Kedzikope and Abutsiakope respectively, they are very happy with the initiative by FoN which caused them to "wake up from their slumber".

FoN started the Coastal Fishing Communities Sustainable Exploitation of Fisheries Resources in the 16 communities already in September 2007. The thrust of its introductory message to the communities and stakeholders was ".....we are here to facilitate a healthy engagement between you and the policy-makers so that the hindrances in the law or its enforcement will be removed. We are not here to tell you to pick up arms against the authorities, issues and other stakeholders who are perceived as impediments to the smooth practice of your profession....."

According to the Kedzikope and Abutsiakope Community-based Fisheries Management Committees (CBFMCs), the FoN initiative made them gain recognition in the right political and social quarters.

With their capacity built through FoN workshops and community fora and meetings, their contribution were just straight to the point and today, the CBFMCs and the CEMAGs respectively, are already talking about success at first step.

by Kwesi B.R JOHNSON
FoN Community Development Coordinator

POPULAR DEMANDS

Fishermen Demand Government's Immediate Attention to the Fisheries Sector

We the representatives of fishermen in Ghana are gathered here in Takoradi, to reflect on the fishing industry in Ghana as well as the oil find, the roles and responsibilities of all stakeholders.

Acknowledging: the contributions of Friends of the Nation (NGO) in funding the campaigns of fishermen nationwide.

Recognizing: the immense contribution of fisheries to the national economy; providing employment, foreign exchange, protein/food for food security, etc. and the role of fishers in the development of coastal communities as well as promoting tourism.

Concerned: about the present predicaments of fisherfolks due to

The increased pair-trawling activities at sea.

Interference of oil explorations to fishing activities and lack of consultation and participation of fisherfolks in the oil dialogues.

Poor enforcement of fisheries laws due to the absence of an LI for the fisheries sector and the ill-resourced Fisheries Commission.

Un-approved utilization of the fisheries development fund.

Irregular pre-mixed distribution to fishermen as well as pre-mixed price variations.

Stressing: that there should be an immediate government's attention to the fisheries sector to solve the problems in the sector.

And Demanding:

A total ban on pair-trawling in Ghana's territorial waters to

avoid the total depletion of the nation's stock.

The adoption of closed seasons and open seasons to regulate fishing activities.

The development of the Legislative instrument (LI) to strengthen the Fisheries Act 625.

The review of the current 30 metres inshore exclusive zone to 100 metres for canoe fishermen.

The Ministry of Fisheries remains as a substantive ministry and not under any Ministry.

The Fisheries commission is adequately resourced to fully function.

The consultation of fisherfolks and transparency in the utilization of the Fisheries Development Fund.

The distribution of pre-mixed fuel through the leadership of the chief fishermen and the security agencies in order to stabilize the prices and curtail diversions.

The inclusion and participation of fisherfolks in all oil dialogues.

The provision of incentives to promote co-existence between fishermen and the oil companies.

The creation of a clearly-marked buffer zone around the oil rigs that can be noticed by all fishermen.

The supplier of reflectors to canoe fishermen so that canoes can be identified by oil vessels to avoid accidents at sea.

The immediate halt of the use of the military (Navy) against fishermen at sea with regards to the oil find but rather the use of participatory dialogue, henceforth.

The capacity of local fishermen is built through the Community-Based Fisheries management Committees (CBFMCs) to assist monitoring at sea.

Representatives of chief fishermen and fishers in the Western and Central regions of Ghana.
22nd January 2009

IUCN-supported Workshop on
"Fisheries and Oil Policy Dialogue"
at Asempa Hotel, Takoradi, Ghana
January 21st -22nd 2009



FRIENDS OF THE NATION

NEW OFFICE TEL. 03120-46180/46181

POB MC 11 Mr. Donkris Mevuta (Exec. Director)
Takoradi Cell Phone: +233 244 520686
GHANA E-mail: friends@africaonline.com.gh
 or: friendsofthenation@gmail.com

Centre

**for Sustainable Livelihood and
Environmental
Development**

News:

established at Sekondi

Ms. Juliet Okyere (Admin./Front Desk Officer) Cell: 0206 9886489
Ms. Gladys Wetsi (Accounts/Finance Chief Officer) Cell: 0209 314213
Ms. Nana Efua Ewur (CD-Program Officer) Cell: 0244 530140
Mr. Bernard Yankum (CD-Project Officer) Cell: 0244 167772
Mr. Kyei K. Yamoah (NR-Program Coordinator) Cell: 0244 817020
Mr. Kwesi R. Johnson (CD- Program Coordinator): Cell: 0287 074411
Mr. Stephen Kankam (Research & Document. Coordinator) Cell: 020 0667038
Mr. Elvis Addae (Field Program Officer) Cell: 0244 0739
Ms. Inge Hessenauer (Advisor DED/FoN) Cell: 0243 213892
Mr. Gilbert San (NR-Project Officer)
Mr. Eric Wedzi (Account Officer)
Mr. Solomon Ampofo (NR-Program Officer) Cell: 0244 055951

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Greenlines

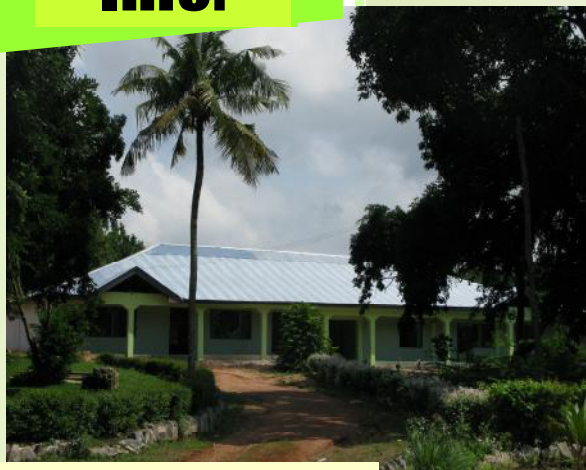
*Volume I No.3 will be
issued in October 2010
Main topic will be the*

***Centre for Sustainable
Livelihoods & Environ-
mental Development***

***CENSLED
and the***

***State of the Coastal
Communities in the
Western Region***

Info:



FoN/CENSLED Office at Adiembra, Sekondi

With support of the French Embassy in Ghana, Friends of the Nation has set-up a multi-purpose Centre for Sustainable Livelihood and Environmental Development (CENSLED) at a project site of the Department of Parks & Gardens in Adiembra, Sekondi.

The Centre shall be used for public education, information, awareness creation, seminars, workshops etc., and aims at establishing development capacities for resource management, sustainable livelihoods and biodiversity conservation.

Trainings and actual demonstration sites of income generating activities, such as fish-farming, grasscutter rearing, value-adding of trees, plants and agricultural products, will make the CENSLED a unique and first address in the Region for ecological solutions in sustainable natural resources management.

CENSLED managed by Friends of the Nation in collaboration with the Sekondi/Takoradi District Assembly was commissioned on January 14th 2010

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Thanks for your support!

The FoN Editorial Team